GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6122
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2002
POLICY ON EDUCATION
RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an emphasis on providing each child social justice, equity and equal opportunity under the Policy Formulation on Education;

(b) if so, whether the above mentioned objectives have been limited to paper only and no efforts have been made to realise the goals;

(c) if so, whether our education system discriminates between the rich and the poor and the opportunity of education has remained limited to one class;

(d) whether the Government realise the need of a drastic change in the field of education; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) to (c): The National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986, asmodified in 1992, provides for a National System of Education which implies that up to a given level, all students, irrespective of caste, creed, location or sex, have access to education of a comparable quality. It includes a common educational structure, a national curricular framework and minimum levels of learning for each stage of education. The NPE alsoenvisages that in the national perception, education is essentially for all. This is fundamental to the all-round development, material and spiritual. Concerns regarding social justice, equity and equal opportunity in education are continuously addressed by the Central and State Governments through appropriate interventions.

(d) & (e) : No, Sir. The NPE, 1986, as modified in 1992, evolvedon a national consensus, has laid down a comprehensive framework that guides the development of education in its entirety. It continues to be relevant and has stood the test of time. It provides for a definite edge for the education of the deprived and disadvantaged sections of the society and hence does not require any revision/modification at present.